

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0848-02
Bill No.: HCS for HB 134
Subject: Education, Elementary and Secondary; Boards, Commissions, Committees,
Councils; Elementary and Secondary Education Department; Teachers
Type: Original
Date: March 6, 2013

Bill Summary: This proposal changes the laws regarding bullying in schools and establishes specific components that a district must include in its anti-bullying policy.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

☐ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

According to officials from the **Office of Secretary of State (SOS)**, many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS's office is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to Secretary of State's office for Administrative Rules is less than \$2,500. SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what their office can sustain with their core budget. Therefore, SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

Oversight assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal with core funding. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could request funding through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** assume no fiscal impact to their agency, but indicated local school districts might incur additional printing costs to implement this proposal. In addition, depending upon the level of training required by each school district for its school employees and volunteers, there could be significant unknown costs.

Officials from the **Special School District of St. Louis County (SSD)** assume the expanded definition of bullying could increase legal fees in due process cases. SSD anticipates that parents will use the broad definition as leverage to push for additional services or to take SSD and other school districts to due process. On the other hand, this bill does not reference the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act which could be to the detriment to some of the students who are served by SSD and who are accused of bullying. It is difficult to project the increase in legal and other fees, but SSD estimates the additional cost to be about \$25,000.

Oversight assumes the legal costs are speculative and, for fiscal note purposes only, will assign no fiscal impact.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

In response to the introduced version of the proposal, officials from the **Francis Howell School District** assume a cost of \$5,000 to “conspicuously post” the policy throughout each school building in areas accessible to students and staff members.

In response to similar proposals from previous years (HB 1049 - 2012 and HB 273 - 2011), officials from the **Mexico School District**, **St. Louis City Public School District** and the **Independence School District** each assumed the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective school districts.

Based on responses from school districts, **Oversight** assumes costs, if any, associated with this proposal would be minimal and could be absorbed with existing resources.

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator**, **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules**, and the **Parkway School District** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no direct fiscal impact.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of State Courts Administrator
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Office of Secretary of State
 Administrative Rules Division
School Districts
 Francis Howell
 Parkway
 Special School District of St. Louis County
 Mexico
 St. Louis City
 Independence



Ross Strobe
Acting Director
March 6, 2013